

Medical Transcription (MT) and Electronic Medical Records (EMR) Software

Medical Transcription has been practiced for decades in order to document patient information and their encounters with the physicians. In Medical Transcription the physician dictates the medical information into a recording device. The medical transcriptionist listens to the dictation and transcribes it onto a computerized file which is then sent to the healthcare provider.

Electronic Medical Records (EMR) is a software in which all of the patient's medical records can be stored. The most important part of every EMR is the process of entering the data. EMR is basically a collection of complete patient data which is made available to the physician which helps in providing the physician a complete, correct, and timely view of patient's information. An Electronic Medical Record is not only an electronic record of the patient data, but also a very helpful decision support tool.

EMR has transformed the industry of healthcare recently. Most of the healthcare professionals were of the opinion that the technology of EMR would take the place of Medical Transcription completely. Nonetheless; the healthcare industry almost immediately understood the fact that medical transcription has more advantages than EMR and majority of the healthcare professionals prefer dictating the notes instead of documenting the data through Electronic Medical Records.

There are several disadvantages of using the EMR method of patient's record keeping. EMR requires additional time and certainly more attention for a medical doctor to search from huge amount of data and generate progress notes using specific templates which must be customized as per the physician's requirement. This customization is inflexible and expensive. EMR is only acquired by tech-savvy doctors. The method of direct data entry by the physician has usually been unsuccessful since providers who are busy refuse doing it altogether. The output from these typical templates is too identical and lacks individuality for each patient.

All these above stated reasons show that EMR is a remarkable technology; however it cannot replace the traditional method of Medical Transcription.

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